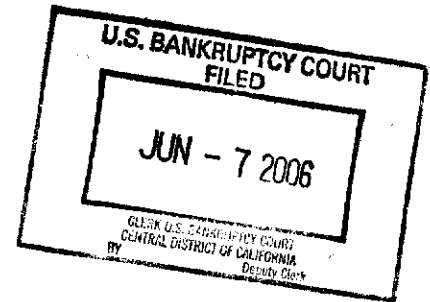


ORIGINAL

James C. Bastian, Jr. – Bar No. 175415
Mark Bradshaw – Bar No. 192540
SHULMAN HODGES & BASTIAN LLP
26632 Towne Centre Drive, Suite 300
Foothill Ranch, California 92610-2808
Telephone: (949) 340-3400
Facsimile: (949) 340-3000

Attorneys for Debtor



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA ANA DIVISION

In re

LLOYD MYLES RUCKER,

Debtor.

**DR. RONALD CUNNING, an individual
and as trustee for the RONALD
CUNNING D.D.S., INC. PROFIT
SHARING PLAN AND TRUST and the
CUNNING FAMILY TRUST,**

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LLOYD MYLES RUCKER,

Defendant.

Case No. SA 06-10195 JR

Chapter 7

Adv. No. 8:06-ap-01259 JR

**DEFENDANT'S OPPOSITION TO
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT;
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
AUTHORITIES AND DECLARATION
OF LLOYD RUCKER IN SUPPORT**

**[Statement of Genuine Issues filed
separately]**

Date: June 28, 2006

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Courtroom 5A

Ronald Reagan Federal Building
and United States Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street
Santa Ana, California 92701

Lloyd Myles Rucker, the debtor in the above-referenced chapter 7 bankruptcy case and the defendant in the above-referenced adversary proceeding ("Debtor" or "Defendant"), hereby submits the following opposition to the Motion for Summary Judgment ("Motion") filed by Ronald Cunning, D.D.S., the Ronald Cunning D.D.S., Inc. Profit Sharing Plan and Trust, and the Cunning Family Trust (collectively, "Cunning" or "Plaintiffs"):

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

BACKGROUND

In 1990, at the top of the market, and just as the savings and loan scandal was brewing, Cunning, a wealthy and sophisticated real estate investor, invested \$1.1 million in two of three projects which the Debtor was then developing. Cunning invested through various investment vehicles in the 15th and 16th Street projects in Costa Mesa, California consisting of fifteen single family homes which were part of a planned unit development.

In 1991, Plaintiffs sued the Debtor for fraud, breach of contract, accounting and breach of fiduciary duty arising out of two joint ventures between the Debtor and the Plaintiffs. A receiver was appointed to manage and complete the construction projects that were the subject of the joint ventures.

The Debtor's supposed wrongdoing consisted only of the following facts. At the same time that the 15th and 16th Street projects were underway, the Debtor was developing a four home project on Ogle Street in Costa Mesa. The Debtor had received a loan commitment from Centennial Bank for the Ogle Street project. He ordered concrete, steel and other items for all three projects in order to obtain a discount for larger orders and broke ground on the Ogle Street project. When Centennial Bank failed and could not fund the construction loan, the Debtor sought replacement financing from Pacific National Bank.

Before that loan funded, the Debtor paid vendors on the Ogle Street project from an account on the 15th and 16th Street projects, an account from which he was due fees based on vouchers issued by the lender pursuant to the progress of that project toward completion. In other words the Debtor used funds from one project to pay expenses of another project, which funds he rightly or wrongly believed were owed to him personally such that he could use them to pay these expenses. Even assuming for the sake of argument that this conduct was entirely improper, the total amount used from the 15th and 16th Street projects to pay vendors on the Ogle Street project was only about \$40,000. At that time, the Debtor believed pursuant to the joint venture agreement that he was personally entitled to supervision fees of \$200,000.

1 During the litigation, the accounting portion of the lawsuit proceeded before the Judicial
2 Arbitration and Mediation Services in Orange County. The Debtor was obligated to pay one half
3 of the fees and costs for the arbitration to JAMS. The Debtor did not have the financial
4 resources at that time to pay his half and filed applications to be relieved of that obligation. The
5 result was that the Debtor was permitted to attend the arbitration but was prohibited from
6 presenting *any* evidence to the arbitrator unless the Debtor paid 50% of the fees.

7 The Debtor did not have the funds to pay 50% of the JAMS fees, which were \$30,000,
8 nor did the Debtor have the funds to pay 50% of the fees to the accountant, Kenneth Leventhal,
9 which were approximately \$120,000. As a result, the Debtor was unable to present a defense,
10 the arbitrator made unusual findings based on partial information, and he ruled for the Plaintiffs
11 on all issues.

12 The arbitrator said there was a double escrow when none in fact existed. He also found
13 that Plaintiffs suffered a loss of \$1.1 million, however, that loss is grossly disproportionate to the
14 Debtor's transfer of \$40,000. The total construction costs for both the 15th and 16th Street
15 projects was less than \$2.5 million. Thirty percent was paid down and construction loans were
16 obtained for the remaining 70%. When the homes in the project were sold, the lenders were paid
17 back 100%. At the outset of the project the estimate for each home sale was \$360,000, with a
18 projected cost basis of \$310,000 each for an estimated profit per home of \$50,000 (i.e.,
19 \$750,000 for the whole 15 home project). As a result of depressed market conditions in 1992
20 and partly as a result of Cunning's insistence that the homes be sold at auction rather than by
21 private sale, the homes only sold for \$240,000 each. This resulted in an average loss of \$70,000
22 per home and a total loss of \$1,050,000 for the project. The Debtor was essentially held liable
23 for the \$40,000 transfers plus the entire loss on the projects.

24 The arbitrator's findings were based on an accounting by Kenneth Leaventhal. It was
25 not disclosed to the court that Leaventhal was Cunning's personal accountant. The Debtor
26 moved to disqualify Leaventhal but the motion was denied solely because all of Leaventhal's
27 work had been completed.

28 ///

1 The trial court confirmed that arbitrator's award of \$1.1 million and set a trial on all
2 matters for July 29, 1996. However, by July 1996, the Debtor had been convicted of various
3 fraud charges and was incarcerated in Oregon. The Debtor served 30 months in prison. The
4 Debtor attempted to obtain a writ to allow him to attend the trial and separately filed a motion to
5 continue the trial. The court denied the motion and denied the writ.

6 Trial commenced on August 6, 1996 and concluded on September 30, 1996, with the
7 Debtor unable to attend. The Debtor was also unable to attend the punitive damages phase of the
8 trial. The Debtor was prevented from testifying in person and from effectively assisting in his
9 own defense.

10 Judgment was entered against the Debtor on December 10, 1996 and that judgment was
11 amended on April 23, 1997, to reflect approximately \$3.1 million, including punitive damages.

12 The Debtor filed a voluntary chapter 7 bankruptcy petition on October 12, 2005.
13 Plaintiffs filed the above-referenced non-dischargeability complaint in response to which the
14 Debtor filed an Answer denying substantially all of the allegations in the complaint. For the
15 reasons that follow, the judgments against the Debtor should not be deemed nondischargeable in
16 the Debtor's bankruptcy case.

17 II.

18 **THE JUDGMENTS ARE NOT ENTITLED TO COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL EFFECT**

19 Collateral estoppel is also referred to as issue preclusion and arises according to one
20 treatise when the following factors are present: (1) the issue was actually litigated in a prior
21 proceeding; (2) there was a full and fair opportunity to litigate the issue at that time; (3) the issue
22 was actually decided in the first action; (4) a valid, final disposition of the issue in question was
23 made on the merits; (5) it was necessary to decide the issue in the first case; (6) the issue
24 occupied a high position in the first case; (7) the later litigation is between the same parties or
25 parties that are bound by the previous litigation; (8) the issue was foreseeably important at the
26 time of the first case; and (9) there are no special considerations, such as fundamental fairness,
27 which deny application of issue preclusion rules. JACK H. FRIEDENTHAL ET AL., CIVIL
28 PROCEDURE, § 4416, at 138 (1985).

1 In California, collateral estoppel precludes relitigation of issues argued and decided in
2 prior proceedings. *Lucido v. Superior Court*, 51 Cal. 3d 335, 795 P.2d 1223, 1225, 272 Cal.
3 Rptr. 767 (Cal. 1990). California courts will apply collateral estoppel only if certain threshold
4 requirements are met, and then only if application of preclusion furthers the public policies
5 underlying the doctrine. *See* 795 P.2d at 1225, 1226. The court has identified various threshold
6 requirements:

7 First, the issue sought to be precluded from relitigation must be identical to that decided
8 in a former proceeding. Second, this issue must have been actually litigated in the former
9 proceeding. Third, it must have been necessarily decided in the former proceeding. Fourth, the
10 decision in the former proceeding must be final and on the merits. Finally, the party against
11 whom preclusion is sought must be the same as, or in privity with, the party to the former
12 proceeding. *Id.* at 1225. The party asserting collateral estoppel bears the burden of establishing
13 these requirements. *Id.*

14 With respect to the first element (i.e., identical issues), Plaintiffs assert that all that is
15 needed is the fact of an adverse fraud judgment. (Mot. 8:25-26.) They cite *Muegler v. Bening*,
16 413 F.3d 980, 984 (9th Cir. 2005) for this principle. *Muegler* is a case decided under Missouri
17 law, not California law. More significantly, the statement in *Muegler* that “nothing more” is
18 required than a prior fraud judgment is based on a distinction made in *Muegler* from prior law.
19 The *Muegler* court only states that receipt of a benefit is no longer an element of fraud. *Id.* In
20 other words, there need not be a judgment and a benefit, just a judgment. That does not mean
21 that once there is a judgment it is conclusively determined that whatever issues were raised in the
22 prior judgment are the same as those raised in any later lawsuit based on Section 523(a)(2)(A).
23 *Muegler* does not stand for that broad proposition. Courts must independently look at the issues
24 raised in the prior judgment and in the non-dischargeability lawsuit to determine whether the
25 issues are identical.

26 As noted above, it is the movant’s burden to establish that the issues are identical. There
27 is no evidence in the Motion that the issues in the Cuning Judgment (as defined in the Motion)
28 and the non-dischargeability lawsuit are identical. There is only a conclusory statement in the

1 Motion that there was a prior judgment and that such judgment should suffice. That is
2 insufficient to carry the Plaintiffs' burden.

3 With respect to the second element (i.e., actually litigated), Plaintiffs state that the Debtor
4 was represented by counsel, that the trial lasted several weeks, and that the Debtor was aware of
5 the trial. (Mot. 9:5-11.) Plaintiffs have offered no declaration or documentary evidence to
6 support any of these statements. Even assuming for the sake of argument that the Plaintiffs had
7 introduced competent and admissible evidence to support those facts, they omit the fact that the
8 Debtor did not have counsel present at the arbitration on the accounting issues, that the Debtor
9 was prevented from presenting any evidence at the arbitration, and that the Debtor was prevented
10 from assisting in his own defense at the trial including being unable to testify in court.

11 Plaintiffs suggest that collateral estoppel applies even to default judgments and that the
12 Debtor's situation was not a default judgment because the judgment was rendered after a trial.
13 (Mot. 9, fn. 3.) The Debtor's situation is more analogous to a default judgment than a trial on the
14 merits because the arbitrator did not have the benefit of any evidence from the Debtor and the
15 Debtor was prevented from testifying in court or otherwise effectively aiding his own defense.
16 Plaintiffs assert that a default judgment is entitled to collateral estoppel effect "as long as the
17 defendant was personally served with the summons or had actual knowledge of the existence of
18 the litigation" and they cite to *Cal-Micro, Inc. v. Cantrell (In re Cantrell)*, 329 F.3d 1119, 1124
19 (9th Cir. 2003) for that principle. (*Id.*) The Plaintiffs' case citation is incomplete and misleading.
20 The *Cantrell* court stated in relevant part as follows:

21 The mere fact that "judgment was secured by default does not warrant the
22 application of a special rule." *Williams v. Williams (In re Williams' Estate)*, 36
23 Cal. 2d 289, 223 P.2d 248, 252 (Cal. 1950). California law does, however, place
24 two limitations on this general principle. The first is that collateral estoppel
25 applies only if the defendant "has been personally served with summons or has
26 actual knowledge of the existence of the litigation." *In re Harmon*, 250 F.3d at
27 1247 (quoting *Williams*, 223 P.2d at 254). Collateral estoppel, therefore, only
28 applies to a default judgment to the extent that the defendant had actual notice of
the proceedings and a "full and fair opportunity to litigate." 250 F.3d at 1247 n.6.

The second limitation, in the context of a default judgment, is that a decision has a
preclusive effect in later proceedings "only where the record shows an express
finding upon the allegation" for which preclusion is sought. *Williams*, 223 P.2d at

1 254. But, as we recognized in *In re Harmon*, "the express finding requirement can
2 be waived if the court in the prior proceeding necessarily decided the issue." 250
3 F.3d at 1248. In such circumstances, an express finding is not required because "if
4 an issue was necessarily decided in a prior proceeding, it was actually litigated."
5 *Id.*

6 *Cantrell*, 329 F.3d at 1123-24 (emphasis added).

7 The Supreme Court has recognized that "the judicially created doctrine of collateral
8 estoppel does not apply when the party against whom the earlier decision is asserted did not have
9 a "full and fair opportunity" to litigate the claim or issue." *Kremer v. Chem. Constr. Corp.*, 456
10 U.S. 461, 480-81, 102 S. Ct. 1883, 1897 (1982). Similarly, the Court noted that
11 "Redetermination of issues is warranted if there is reason to doubt the quality, extensiveness, or
12 fairness of procedures followed in prior litigation." *Id.*

13 The Ninth Circuit has stated that "[a] party who deliberately precludes resolution of
14 factual issues through normal adjudicative procedures may be bound, in subsequent, related
15 proceedings involving the same parties and issues, by a prior judicial determination reached
16 without completion of the usual process of adjudication. In such a case the 'actual litigation'
17 requirement n5 may be satisfied by substantial participation in an adversary contest in which the
18 party is afforded a reasonable opportunity to defend himself on the merits but chooses not to do
19 so." *FDIC v. Daily (In re Daily)*, 47 F.3d 365, 368 (9th Cir. 1995). As set forth in Mr. Rucker's
20 declaration attached hereto, the Debtor wanted to present evidence to the arbitrator in connection
21 with the accounting issues but could not afford to pay the required fees. He also wanted to
22 attend the trial, including the punitive damages phase, and testify in person in his defense but he
23 was prevented from doing so. This was not a situation as in *Daily* where the Debtor was
24 "afforded a reasonable opportunity to defend himself on the merits but chose not to do so." The
25 circumstances surrounding the Debtor's ability to participate in the arbitration and trial call into
26 doubt the quality, extensiveness, and fairness of procedures followed. As such, none of the
27 judgments should have collateral estoppel effect and Plaintiffs should have to prove their claims
28 on the merits.

29 In summary, with respect to the "actually litigated" element, the Plaintiffs have not
30 offered evidence to support their allegations that the issues were actually litigated, they have

omitted the fact that the Debtor was prohibited from offering evidence and attending trial, they have not carried their burden to show that the Debtor had a full and fair opportunity to litigate the issues, and finally as discussed further below, they have not provided a record with express findings but rather a record with conflicting and confusing findings.

The findings upon which Plaintiffs base their Motion are at a minimum inconsistent and on their face dictate that summary judgment is not appropriate. In support of the Motion, Plaintiffs have attached special findings regarding fraud and deceit concerning plaintiff Dr. Ronald Cuning. (*See* Plaintiffs' RJN Ex. 3.) Question number 5 asks "[w]as the plaintiff aware of the falsity of the representation?" (emphasis added). The answer to this question by the jury was "yes". If the plaintiff (i.e., Dr. Cuning) was aware that the statements made to him by the Debtor were false, which is precisely what the jury found, Cuning could not have reasonably relied on those statements and therefore such statements cannot give rise to a non-dischargeable judgment under Bankruptcy Code Section 523(a).

Similarly, in support of the Motion the Plaintiffs have also attached special findings regarding fraud and deceit concerning plaintiff Ronald Cuning as trustee for the Ronald Cuning Profit Sharing Plan and Trust. (*See* Plaintiffs' RJN Ex. 9.) Question number 5 asks "[w]as the plaintiff aware of the falsity of the representation?" (emphasis added). The answer to this question by the jury was (again) "yes". If the plaintiff (i.e., Cuning on behalf of the Profit Sharing Plan and Trust) was aware that the statements made to him by the Debtor were false, which is again precisely what the jury found, the plaintiff could not have reasonably relied on those statements.

The Plaintiffs also attached special findings regarding fraud and deceit concerning plaintiff Ronald Cuning as trustee for the Cuning Family Trust. (*See* Plaintiffs' RJN Ex. 15.) Question number 5 asks "[w]as the plaintiff aware of the falsity of the representation?" (emphasis added). The answer to this question by the jury was (again) "yes". If the plaintiff (i.e., Cuning on behalf of the Cuning Family Trust) was aware that the statements made to him by the Debtor were false, which is again precisely what the jury found, the plaintiff could not have reasonably relied on those statements.

1 The special findings do not state whether each of the Plaintiffs' reliance on the statement
2 was reasonable. However, question number 7 asks whether the plaintiff was "justified" in
3 relying on the representation. The response provided by the jury to that question is "yes" for
4 each plaintiff. The findings by the jury are confusing, inconsistent, and are insufficient to
5 support non-dischargeability based on collateral estoppel. On the one hand the jury found that
6 the Plaintiffs were aware of the falsity of the statements and on the other hand the jury found that
7 the Plaintiffs were justified in relying on those representations. The Plaintiffs should not be
8 permitted to rely on inconsistent findings for purposes of conclusively establishing a severe
9 remedy such as non-dischargeability of a debt. This is especially true given that the Plaintiffs
10 have the burden to prove each element of their non-dischargeability claim by a preponderance of
11 the evidence and because exceptions to discharge under section 523 are to be narrowly
12 construed. See, *Harmon v. Kobrin (In re Harmon)*, 250 F.3d 1240, 1246 (9th Cir. 2001); *Su v.*
13 *Carrillo (In re Su)*, 259 B.R. 909, 912 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2001). Therefore, collateral estoppel
14 should not apply and the Motion should be denied.

15 **III.**

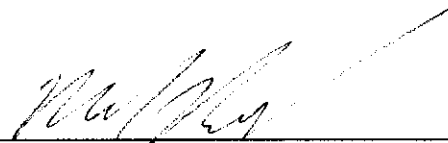
16 **CONCLUSION**

17 For the reasons set forth herein, the Debtor respectfully requests that the Motion be
18 denied in its entirety.

19
20 Dated: June 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

21 **SHULMAN HODGES & BASTIAN LLP**

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24 Mark Bradshaw
25 Attorneys for Debtor
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DECLARATION OF LLOYD MYLES RUCKER

I, Lloyd Myles Rucker, declare:

1. I am the debtor in the bankruptcy case of In re Lloyd Myles Rucker, Case No. SA 06-10195 JR. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and could, if called as a witness, competently testify thereto. I make this declaration in support of my opposition to the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by Ronald Cuning, D.D.S., the Ronald Cuning D.D.S., Inc. Profit Sharing Plan and Trust, and the Cuning Family Trust (collectively, "Cuning" or "Plaintiffs").

2. I graduated from the University of Southern California with a degree in business and I currently work in the real estate mortgage industry. In 1990, I was working on real estate development projects in Southern California including projects at 15th and 16th Street in Costa Mesa, California. The 15th and 16th Street projects consisted of fifteen single family homes which were part of a planned unit development.

3. In 1990, at the top of the real estate market and just as the savings and loan scandal was brewing, I was introduced to Cuning who represented to me that he was a wealthy and sophisticated real estate investor.

4. Cuning purchased the 15th street property from me. Approximately six months later a joint venture agreement was signed. Cuning used the equity in the 15th Street property as part of a 30% down payment required for a construction loan on the project.

5. In 1991, Plaintiffs sued me for fraud, breach of contract, accounting and breach of fiduciary duty arising out of 15th and 16th Street projects. A receiver was appointed to manage and complete the construction projects.

6. At the same time that the 15th and 16th Street projects were underway, I was developing a four home project on Ogle Street in Costa Mesa. I had received a loan commitment from Centennial Bank for the Ogle Street project. I ordered concrete, steel and other items for all three projects in order to obtain a discount for larger orders and broke ground on the Ogle Street project. When Centennial Bank failed and could not fund the construction loan, I sought replacement financing from Pacific National Bank.

7. Before that loan funded, I paid vendors on the Ogle Street project from an account on the 15th Street project, an account from which I was owed fees based on vouchers issued by the lender pursuant to the progress of that project.

8. The total amount used from the 15th and 16th Street projects to pay vendors on the Ogle Street project was about \$40,000. At that time, I believed pursuant to the joint venture agreement that I was personally entitled to supervision fees of \$200,000.

9. During the litigation, the accounting portion of the lawsuit proceeded before the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services in Orange County. I was told I had to pay one half of the fees and costs for the arbitration to JAMS. I did not have the financial resources at that time to pay and filed applications to be relieved of that obligation. The result was that I was permitted to attend the arbitration but was prohibited from presenting *any* evidence to the arbitrator.

10. I did not have the funds to pay 50% of the JAMS fees, which were \$30,000, nor did I have the funds to pay 50% of the fees to the accountant, Kenneth Leaventhal, which were approximately \$120,000. As a result, I was unable to present a defense, the arbitrator made unusual findings based on partial information, and he ruled for the Plaintiffs on all issues.

11. I have reviewed the arbitrator's statement which said there was a double escrow. There was never any double escrow involved in these transactions.

12. The arbitrator also said that Plaintiffs suffered a loss of \$1.1 million, however, that loss is grossly disproportionate to the transfer of \$40,000 noted above. Plaintiffs' investment in the joint ventures was investment capital and 100% at risk. The Debtor was essentially held to bear all of the risk of loss for the project.

13. The total construction costs for both the 15th and 16th Street projects were less than \$2.5 million. Thirty percent was paid down and construction loans were obtained for the remaining 70%. When the homes in the project were sold, the lenders were paid back 100%.

14. At the outset of the project the estimate for each home sale was \$360,000, with a projected cost basis of \$310,000 each, for an estimated profit per home of \$50,000 (i.e., \$750,000 for the whole 15 home project). As a result of depressed market conditions in 1992

1 and partly as a result of Cunning's insistence that the homes be sold at auction rather than by
2 private sale, the homes only sold for \$240,000 each. This resulted in an average loss of \$70,000
3 per home and a total loss of \$1,050,000 for the project.

4 15. During the development of the 15th and 16th Street projects, Plaintiffs had full
5 access to the bank's records for these projects and had power to sign on the bank accounts.

6 16. I am informed that the arbitrator's findings were based on an accounting by
7 Kenneth Leaventhal. It was not disclosed to me or the court that Leaventhal was Cunning's
8 personal accountant. I filed a motion to disqualify Leaventhal but the motion was denied solely
9 because all of Leaventhal's work had already been completed.

10 17. I am informed that the trial court confirmed that arbitrator's award of \$1.1 million
11 and set a trial on all matters for July 29, 1996. However, by July 1996, I had been convicted of
12 various fraud charges and was incarcerated in Oregon. I served 30 months in prison. I attempted
13 to obtain a writ to allow me to attend the trial and separately filed a motion to continue the trial.
14 The court denied the motion and denied the writ.

15 18. I am informed that the trial commenced on August 6, 1996 and concluded on
16 September 30, 1996. I was prevented from attending. I was also prevented from attending the
17 punitive damages phase of the trial. I was prevented from testifying in person and from
18 effectively assisting in my own defense.

19 19. I am informed that Judgment was entered against me on December 10, 1996 and
20 that the judgment was amended on April 23, 1997, to reflect approximately \$3.1 million,
21 including punitive damages.

22 20. I filed a voluntary chapter 7 bankruptcy petition on October 12, 2005. Plaintiffs
23 filed the above-referenced non-dischargeability complaint in response to which I filed an answer
24 denying substantially all of the allegations in the complaint.

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1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the
2 foregoing is true and correct.

3 Executed on June 7, 2006, at SEE FACSIMILE California.

4 **SIGNATURE ATTACHED**

5 Lloyd Myles Rucker
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1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the
2 foregoing is true and correct.

3 Executed on June 7, 2006,

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6 Lloyd Myles Rucker
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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

I am employed in the City of Foothill Ranch, County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 26632 Towne Centre Drive, Suite 300, Foothill Ranch, California 92610.

On June 7, 2006, I served the documents named below on the parties in this Action as follows:

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED: DEFENDANT'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES AND DECLARATION OF LLOYD RUCKER IN SUPPORT

SERVED UPON: SEE THE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

☒ (BY MAIL) I caused each such envelope, with postage thereon fully prepaid, to be placed in the United States mail at Foothill Ranch, California. I am readily familiar with the practice of Shulman Hodges & Bastian LLP for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing, said practice being that in the ordinary course of business, mail is deposited in the United States Postal Service the same day as it is placed for collection. I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after deposit for mailing in affidavit.

☐ (BY FACSIMILE) The above-referenced document was transmitted by facsimile transmission and the transmission was reported as completed and without error. Pursuant to C.R.C. 2009(i), I either caused, or had someone cause, the transmitting machine to properly transmit the attached documents to the facsimile numbers shown on the service list.

☐ (BY OVERNIGHT DELIVERY) I am readily familiar with the practice of Shulman Hodges & Bastian LLP for collection and processing of documents for overnight delivery and know that the document(s) described herein will be deposited in a box or other facility regularly maintained by Federal Express or Overnite Express for overnight delivery or by Express Mail via the United States Postal Service.

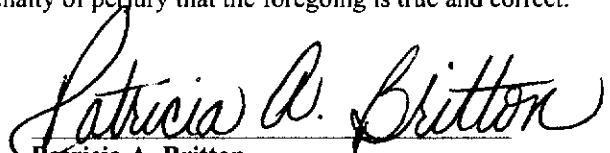
☐ (BY E-MAIL OR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION) Based on a court order or an agreement of the parties to accept service by e-mail or electronic transmission, I caused the document(s) to be sent to the persons at the e-mail addresses as listed above and/or on the attached Service List. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

☐ (BY PERSONAL SERVICE) I delivered to an authorized courier or driver authorized by ASAP Corporate Services, Inc. to receive documents to be delivered on the same date. A proof of service signed by the authorized courier shall be filed upon receipt from ASAP Corporate Services, Inc.

☐ (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

☒ (FEDERAL) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court, at whose direction this service was made. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 7, 2006, at Foothill Ranch, California.


Patricia A. Britton

SERVICE LIST

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INTERESTED PARTY

Office of the U.S. Trustee
Attn: Michael Hauser
411 W. Fourth St., Suite 9041
Santa Ana, CA 92701

CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE

Thomas H. Casey, Trustee
22342 Avenida Empresa, Suite 260
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFFS

Evan D. Smiley, Esq.
Weiland Golden Smiley Wank
Ekvall & Strok LLP
650 Town Center Dr., Suite 950
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

DEBTOR

Lloyd Myles Rucker
P O Box 875
110 Washington Avenue #1724
Miami Beach, FL 33119